

LETTER to a young Country Clergyman, (who  
used hard Words in his Sermon) in Behalf of his  
poor ignorant Congregation.

*By a Gentleman who accidentally heard him.*

*To the most Deuteronomical, Polydoxologist, Pantophilological Linguist, Mr. —, Archi Rabbi Sophi Diotrephis, &c.*

“THE unanimous and humillimous desiderations, as well of your parochian, as hic-et-ubiquitarian, illiterate, semipaganian auditors, beg leave submissively to remonstrate, that altho’ by your specious proems, and spacious introductions, promising great perspicuity in predication, you endeavour to inveigle our affections, in order to indoctrinate our agricolated intellects; yet thro’ the caliginous sublimity of internexed conundrums, tonitruating with obstreperous cadencies, you obfuscate our A-b-c-darian conceptions, so that we return puzzled, and confounded. We, therefore, for our soul’s good, do from the nadir of our rusticity almacanterise to the very zenith of your unparalleled sphere of activity, in beseeching your exuberant genius to nutriate our rational appetites with intelligible Theology, suitable to our plebeian apprehensions, and to recondite your acroamatical locutions for more scholastic auscultators. For, whilst we, all of Ignoramus’s offspring, hear you gigantize in lycrophronian and pharigenous raptures, in words we never met with in holy writ, without dilucidation of their genuine signification, we lose the whole system of your doctrine, in admiration of your eximious erudition. Being, then, under a panic timidity, lest we should see some sesquipedalian circumforaneous Saltimbanco mount the Rostrum, and after your example, should in spagirical bombast, repuzzle the quintessentials of our ingenosities, with more amalgamations, cohobations and fixations, we beg you to call to mind St. Austin’s saying, *I had rather that the grammarians should blame, than that the people should not understand me.*—— And now, Sir, we supplicate your clemency, not to deem these lines derogatory to your most exquisite pains: for we admire such superlative acquisitions; which, however, we humbly opine, are more fit to be displayed among learned acamedicians, than agrestical auditors. And we existimate ourselves justified in this our application, by the authority of St. Paul, who says, *If I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian; and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.* Thus having copulated our plebeian endeavours, we excolutate the subumbration of your subligacles: And sooner shall the surges of the sandiferous sea ignify and evaporate, than the cone of our duty towards you be in the least unconcatenate or dissolved.”